Equal Rights

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SATURDAY,
MARCH 29, 1930

Dr. Elena Mederos de Gonzalez

Appointed by the Cuban Government to represent Cuba on the Inter-American Commission of Women. Dr. Gonzalez is a native of Cuba, born in Havana, and is a graduate of the University of Havana. She is secretary of the Alianza Nacional Feminista; one of the younger leaders in the Cuban Feminist movement; beautiful, charming, competent. Her colleagues say she was chosen as Commissioner to represent Cuba because of her distinguished and efficient work as officer of the Alianza. Sra. Gonzalez is a member of the well-known Mederos family, which has given leaders to many progressive, social, and political movements in the Island.

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution No. 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929,
by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.

Introduced in the House April 25, 1929,
by Representative Frederick W. Magrady
Pennsylvania.

A Suggestion to Women's Colleges

SPEAKING at a plenary session of the Inter-American Commission of Women before the Congress of University Deans and Presidents on February 22, in Havana, Cuba, Sra. Elena Mederos de Gonzalez brought forward a suggestion which merits the attention of the leaders in our women's colleges.

Sra. Gonzalez said:

"We are a committee selected by the Inter-American Commission of Women to come before you today on its behalf. As you know, the Inter-American Commission of Women was created by the Sixth Pan-American Conference by resolution of February 18, 1928. It is charged with the study of the civil and political status of women, looking toward establishing equality between men and women in the twenty-one republics of this hemisphere.

"We come to you because you represent the directing force of the university life of this hemisphere. We call upon you, deans, professors, presidents, for help in our research work on the position of women. We ask you to encourage graduate students to specialize in the legal position of women. When men have legal research work to do they have at their disposal all the university channels. We now ask you for the same facilities. Your attitude towards this question is extremely important because of the influence you exercise upon the young people whom you send forth into life. You can make our work infinitely difficult or extraordinarily easy. You can welcome and encouurage study in the pursuit of establishing Equal Rights for men and women of this hemisphere, which is the main purpose of the Inter-American Commission of Women."

The task which Sra. Gonzalez suggests would seem to be peculiarly appropriate to the women's colleges.

In the first place it would provide a stimulating line of research for special students, and in the second place it would tend to bring the education of girls into higher repute.

The education of a subordinate class is always regarded as a subordinate undertaking, hence it is to the interest of the leaders themselves in the women's colleges to assist in improving the status of women.

The Religion of Feminism

AN INTERESTING definition of religion that has recently been advanced is, "A faith so deep that one loses one's self in it." This definition might readily be applied to the Feminist movement, for proof is not lacking that during the past century the leaders in the active Feminist campaign have completely given themselves and their own personal interests over to the advancement of the cause.

It is from this rich source that the vitality of the woman movement has flowed in the past, and it is from the same deep source that it must draw its strength in the future.

It is difficult to analyze the psychology of the true Feminist or to understand the power that, regardless of her personal reputation, her financial interests or even her physical well-being, drives her on to her goal. She appears almost as the embodiment of the vital principle of evolution, coming we know not whence and proceeding we know not whither under the stars.

Accustomed as we are to a world in which personal gain or glory constitute the accepted motivating impulses of mankind, the impersonal ambition of the Feminist, her instinct to subordinate herself to the movement, suggests a wholly new mechanism for the advancement of human affairs. It is as if the geometric principle that the whole is greater than any of its parts had become intrinsic in her philosophy.

The Feminist leader realizes that women must advance together, as a group, and that her own personal triumph, except as it serves the cause, is of no moment. This sinking of one's lot in the common welfare, this making the objective of the group one's own, may well betoken a new era in the life of the human family.

To give, not to take; to serve, not to demand service; to do one's best work and to ask no personal reward, is to follow a way of life that has heretofore found its Mecca far beyond the confines of this planet.

But the Feminist finds her Mecca here even in so mundane a thing as the Equal Rights Amendment or the Equal Rights Treaty.

If religion is really a faith so deep that one loses one's self in it, the Feminist faith must be confessed to measure pretty well up to the standard.

Events Move at the Hague

DORIS STEVENS, chairman, and Fanny Bunand-Savastos, executive secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, sailed for Europe on March 20 to urge that the nations meeting at The Hague to codify international law on nationality adopt conventions guaranteeing that there shall be no difference in law or in practice as between men and women in nationality laws.

Miss Stevens will confer with Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, president of the National Woman's Party, in Paris before going to The Hague.

A cablegram was received March 16 from Florence Bayard Hilles, chairman of the Woman's Party committee at The Hague, urging that Miss Stevens come promptly to help work for the equal nationality convention. Another cablegram received March 19 urged speed, as the conference will last only about four weeks, having begun March 13, and as all three subjects on the agenda are being discussed simultaneously.

A letter received from Dr.Emma Wold, technical advisor to the United States delegation at The Hague, reports that the delegation and the advisors were busily at work on the question while on shipboard. The delegates met daily and referred a list of points on nationality to the advisors for their criticism, additions, or omissions. Women are indeed fortunate that among these technical advisors is a woman so well versed in international law and in the laws of the countries of the world on nationality and who is also so firm in her convictions that women should have the same nationality rights as men. Women are also fortunate in having among the plenipotentiaries an able woman, Ruth B. Shipley, head of the passport division of the Department of State. Betty Archdale met Dr. Wold at London.

Among the organizations in the United States which have recently endorsed the equal nationality treaty are: Woman's Press Club of New York City; Republican Women of Philadelphia County of the 24th Ward; Business and Professional Women's Club of Niles, Michigan; Woman's Club of St. Petersburg, Florida. All sent copies of their resolution of endorsement to President Hoover.

Wilma Sinclair Le Van, president of the Ohio Council of Republican Women, wrote President Hoover urging that the American delegation support equality in nationality laws.

Elizabeth Selden Rogers spoke at Perin House, Rock Ridge, Connecticut, on March 24 on "The Inter-American Commission of Women and The Hague Codification Conference."

For Equalizing Nationality Laws

By Ruby A. Black

HOPE that Congress may pass a measure equalizing the nationality laws of the United States even before the nations agree at The Hague on a nationality convention is seen in the fact that the House of Representatives Committee on Immigration and Naturalization has favorably reported a bill wiping out all discriminations against women in nationality laws except one.

The bill was introduced by Representative John L. Cable of Ohio, author of the present Cable Act partly equalizing the status of women under the nationality laws. It is amended from the first draft recently analyzed for EQUAL RIGHTS by Dr. Emma Wold, now serving as technical advisor to the United States delegation at the International Conference on the Codification of International Law, meeting at The Hague.

Alice Paul, authority on nationality and author of the book on the subject now being used as a source of information at The Hague, helped draft the amendments proposed by Representative Cable in his new bill, which is numbered H. R. 10960.

This bill leaves in the law the provision that an American woman who marries an alien ineligible to citizenship in the United States shall lose her nationality. Representative Cable does not approve this discrimination against women, since a man does not lose his citizenship by marriage to an alien ineligible to citizenship, but he was unable to get the approval of the committee for a measure eliminating this discrimination against women. Even with his provision remaining in the law, the new Cable bill is a tremendous advance over the present law.

It wipes out the present provision that a woman married to an alien is presumed to have relinquished her American citizenship if she lives for two years in the country of which her husband is a citizen or for five years in some other country.

It greatly facilitiates the recovery of citizenship lost by a woman because of marriage to an alien. It would permit such a woman to re-enter the United States without reference to the quota, and allows her to go before a proper court and regain her citizenship by taking the oath of allegiance. Such a procedure would not necessarily require more than a day, Representative Cable said, while under the present law a woman must live in the United States a year before she can regain her citizenship. She would not have to certify her intention of residing permanently in the United States, as at present.

If such had been the law when Representative Ruth Bryan Owen returned to the United States, the entire costly contest over her election to the House of Representatives would never have been possible.

ANOTHER good item of news in connection with nationality is the fact that the Committee on Elections reported to the House of Representatives Monday that Representative Owen was eligible for election to Congress and should retain her seat. The House of Representatives is expected to give its formal approval of this report sometime in April, and then the contest over Representative Owen's election will be over.

Representative Cable spoke on the National Woman's Party radio program on March 19. His speech on nationality follows:

"EACH Member of the House of Representatives recently received a letter from an attorney whose alien client was not permitted to enter the United States because she was not able to pass the tests of the 1917 immigration act. Seeking to amend the women's citizenship law, so that his client could be admitted, the attorney wrote:

"'Neither Congress nor the American people have a full sense of the import of the act of 1922, which was invoked by the legal arm of the Government.'

"It was the immigration law, and not the 1922 act granting independent citizenship to women, that prevented his client from coming to this country. If that attorney had known of the discussions and consideration of the unjust discriminations in our citizenship laws affecting women, which brought about the 1922 act, he would not have so circularized Congress.

"In 1907 Congress had passed an expatriation act providing, in part, that any American woman who married a foreigner should take the nationality of her husband and cease to be an American citizen. If the laws of her husband's country did not vest her with his nationality, she became a woman without a country. No consideration was given her wish or desire in regard to nationality. She was automatically deprived of the right of protection by the United States while she traveled or lived outside of this country. She lost all right of suffrage, of holding office, either by election or appointment, the right to participate in governmental affairs and, in many States, she lost the right to hold or inherit property, to teach in the public schools, practice a profession, or to carry on many of the other vocations of life.

"The reverse was not true—the native-born man who married an alien, even though he went to live in the country of his wife, did not have his citizenship status taken from him. Then, too, the alien woman whose husband was naturalized, or the alien woman who married an American, automatically acquired that which the native born lost — American citizenship—without regard to her wish or qualification.

"The battle for equal citizenship rights began many years ago. Jeannette Rankin, the first woman Member of Congress; John Jacob Rogers, a Representative from Massachusetts; and others, introduced bills to abolish the unjust discriminations existing under the 1907 act. Inasmuch as Congress failed to legislate on these bills, the women of the country appeared, represented by their leaders, before the national conventions of the Republican and Democratic parties in 1920 and secured the adoption of a pledge, which was included in the platforms of both parties and which reads as follows:

"'We advocate, in addition, the independent naturalization of women. An American woman resident in the United States should not lose her citizenship by marriage to an alien.'

"Backed by this pledge of the major parties and indorsed by such national women's organizations as the American Association of University Women, National Federation of Business and Professional Women, Council of Jewish Women, General Federation of Women's Clubs, National League of Women Voters, National Woman's Party, National Trade Union League, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Congress desiring to give the citizenship status of American women the dignity and individuality of that of American men passed the bill granting independent citizenship rights to women.

"That bill was signed by President Harding on September 2, 1922, and is commonly known as the Cable Act of that date.

"Independent citizenship rights for women, expressed in the 1922 act, was not a new idea in the United States. Prior to the 1907 law, even though an American woman married an alien, if she continued to live in the United States, she did not cease to be an American citizen. So held Charles Evans Hughes when he was Secretary of State. Likewise not until 1855 did the marriage of an alien woman to an American make her a citizen of this country. Before the enactment of these laws marriage alone did not affect a woman's nationality, so far as the United States was concerned.

"Thus, the attorney mentioned clearly is in error in his statement, for both Congress and the American people fully realized the import of the women's citizenship act of 1922, and fully contemplated the results of the operation of that act.

"That law provides, in part, that a woman citizen shall not cease to be a United States citizen by reason of her marriage after the passage of the act, unless she make a formal renunciation of her citizenship before a court having jurisdiction over naturalization of aliens. On the other hand, any woman who has married a citizen of the United States, or whose husband has been naturalized, since the passage of the 1922 act, has not acquired United States citizenship by reason of her marriage or her husband's naturalization. This citizenship law is a step in the right direction, but it does not grant complete independent citizenship rights to women, and there should be some perfecting amendments.

"For example, the law now requires one year's permanent residence in the United States before a native-born woman, who has lost her citizenship because of her marriage to an alien, can regain her American status. Why should the woman who may have married a day before September 22, 1922, be placed at a great disadvantage, a disadvantage which is not suffered by the woman who happened to marry the day after the act became effective, and thereby retained her United States citizenship?

"Take the case of Mrs. Emily Martin. She married an alien before the 1922 act was effective, and her American citizenship was automatically taken from her. Later she returned to this country, resided here a year, and then, because she told the court she might reside outside the United States with her husband and children, the court found her residence here was not permanent, as required by law, but was temporary, and the court denied her the right to regain United States citizenship.

"I HAVE introduced a bill, H.R.10208, now pending before the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, to permit any woman who lost her citizenship by reason of her marriage to an alien before the 1922 act, to go before a court and regain her citizenship, irrespective of the character of her residence in the United States. It could be either temporary or permanent, and a day's residence would be sufficient.

"That bill, if enacted into law, also would repeal the provision requiring a woman who has lost her citizenship to go through regular naturalization proceedings. Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, for example, married a British officer before 1922, and lost her American citizenship through no fault or desire of her own.

"After the war, she returned to this country with her husband, and was required to submit to the same naturalization proceedings to regain her American citizenship in a Florida court, as one who had never been a citizen of the United States. This is not a just requirement of a native-born woman who had her citizenship taken away by the provisions of the 1907 act. A simple affirmative act should be sufficient to regain the citizenship lost by a native-born woman because of her marriage.

"There are women whose American citizenship was lost by marriage prior to the 1922 act, who can not now return to the United States to regain their former nationality because of our immigration quota law. Since a woman in this situation is counted in the quota of her husband's country, if the quota allotted to his nationality is exhausted, she can not return to the United States to be repatriated. To come here temporarily as a visitor will be of no benefit, as the law now requires her residence to be of a permanent character, before she can regain American nationality. The permanent-resident requirement in the cases of such women should be repealed, and our immigration laws should be amended to permit her to be admitted without regard to the quota.

"The present law provides that an American girl who marries an alien ineligible for citizenship shall become ineligible also. She becomes a woman without a country. An ineligible alien usually means one of the yellow race. No such law applies to the American man. If he marries an alien ineligible for citizenship he continues to be an American citizen. Why should there be one rule for the man and another for the woman? Both are American citizens.

"H. R. 10208 would eliminate this unjust discrimination.

"If a native-born man marries an alien and resides abroad in her country the remainder of his life he does not cease to be an American citizen. Their children, although they are born abroad and never come to the United States, likewise are American citizens. But if a native-born woman marries an alien and resides two years in his country, or five years elsewhere abroad, she is presumed to have ceased to be an American citizen. Again I ask, why should there be one rule of law for men and another for women?

"Complete equality in citizenship should be the law of this land. There is no reason for distinctions between men and women in the nationality laws of the United States. A native-born woman has the same loyalties and should have the same rights to nationality as a man. She should have, as the man has, the right to select the country of her choice.

"In view of the great alien population in this country and the resulting marriage between alien men and American women, on the one hand, and between American men and alien women on the other, the question of nationality rights is of peculiar significance. The status of these women depends not only upon the laws of this country, but also upon the nationality laws of many other countries. To abolish all distinctions between the sexes, the question of nationality must be dealt with internationally by means of treaties.

"The conference for the codification of international law, now in session at The Hague, was called only after it was determined that certain subjects were ripe for consideration. The conference will discuss and undertake to codify the law on three important subjects: Nationality, territorial waters, and the responsibility of States for damage done to the persons or property of foreigners within their territory.

"Nationality includes that of greatest importance—citizenship of women.

"More than 50 countries have sent delegates to this conference at The Hague. One is Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley, Chief of the Passport Division in the Department of State, and a technical advisor is Dr. Emma Wold of the National Woman's Party.

"I hope our delegates will bring back a treaty providing in substance, that there shall be no distinction based on sex in regard to the law on nationality. We should bear in mind, however, that this subject involves the laws of many countries, is of the greatest magnitude, and that on it there is the greatest divergence of opinions.

"THERE are only five nations dealing equally with men and women in the effect of marriage on nationality. In 81 countries a man's marriage has no effect whatever on his nationality; while on the other hand, in the entire world there are but nine countries in which marriage does not change a woman's nationality without her consent. In the nationality laws of the world, six different systems are found to prevail in regard to the effect of marriage on a woman's nationality. In 28 countries the wife is compelled under all circumstances to lose her nationality and take that of her husband, while his is not changed by marriage.

"In two countries, Andora and Japan, the husband is compelled, under certain circumstances, to take the nationality of his wife. These various laws have resulted in situations wherein the woman who marries a man of foreign nationality may find herself a woman with two countries, or of dual nationality, and subject to the tax and other laws of both countries.

"On the other hand, some women who lose their nationality under their own laws, because of marriage, and who do not acquire the nationality of their husbands, find themselves stateless and without the right of protection, passport, and many other conveniences. They are women without a country.

"These facts show the stupendous task that confronts the delegates at The Hague in their attempt to harmonize the nationality laws of more than 80 different countries.

"By adopting the 1922 act the United States made known to the world that the nationality of its women should not be made an incident of marriage. Our nation cannot, through its delegates at The Hague, take a backward step; the other nations must go forward.

"If sufficient progress is not made at The Hague in the matter of reaching some agreement tending toward equal citizenship rights for women, I will press for passage my resolution requesting President Hoover to call a conference of representatives of all governments of the world to meet at Washington, D. C., to consider and adopt a convention on the nationality of women, which will pronounce for all nations the principle that a woman should have the same right to independent nationality as a man.

"To the leaders of the great women's organizations I have mentioned, is due the credit for the 1922 act. Their faith and confidence in the principle of equal citizenship rights, expressed in that law, have been vindicated. The law has stood the test; it has justified itself.

"Let Congress again accept the wisdom of these women, by enacting perfecting amendments to the act of 1922. Then will the law stand as a model to be copied by the delegates at The Hague. Let us hope that when our delegates return they will bring back with them an agreement embodying the principle that a woman should enjoy the same nationality rights as a man."

Married Women Workers

Statement of the Women's Bureau,
U. S. Department of Labor

DO MARRIED women seek jobs from necessity or choice? Approximately nine-tenths of them work outside the home because they need to, if a close-up study of a small group of Denver women by Emily C. Brown of the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor be taken as a cross-section of the problems of married women workers.

This report, just issued, covers almost 450 women who were or had been married and who applied for jobs during the spring and summer months of 1928 to the Young Women's Christian Association and to a department store in Denver.

"While the data are fragmentary in character," Miss Brown states, "in these times when the numbers of married women who are employed outside their homes have so strikingly increased, each bit of evidence on the forces behind this phenomenon is valuable."

Do women with husbands to support them take jobs from single women in need of work? The vociferous volume of public opinion prone to answer this question in the affirmative is given a staggering blow by Miss Brown's evidence. This shows that discrimination against married women workers may be unjust and work hardship since over two-thirds of the women included in her investigation stated that they were without a husband's support. In such cases the husband was reported as dead, ill, physically incapacitated, unemployed, and in four instances in prison, or the wife was separated, divorced, or deserted.

The married women constituted 45.5 per cent. of the women reporting on marital status; the separated, deserted, and divorced 23 per cent., and the widowed 26.5 per cent.

Of the women whose husbands contributed to their support, almost three-fourths stated that they were applying for work from economic necessity, a number stating that the husband's earnings were irregular or inadequate for the family needs. A few of these were seeking work in order to help their husbands in financial emergencies, and one worked to help support her parents.

More than two-fifths of the women whose sources of income were ascertained had none except their own earnings. In some cases contributions from sons and daughters, house or room rent, alimony, and insurance were given as other sources of income.

The presence of young children gave added responsibility to many of these women. Of the matrons who applied to the Y. W. C. A., 299 reported on the husband's support. One-half of the 221 women who were without such support had children under 16, nearly a fifth having two or more children. Less than 40 per cent. of the widows, but over 60 per cent. of the women whose husbands were divorced, separated, deserting, ill, unemployed, or in prison, had children under 16. In the case of those who received some support from their husbands, 45 per cent. had young children.

Of the total number of women applicants to these agencies for jobs during the period studied, those who were or had been married constituted about one-third. Jobs were secured by 36 per cent. of the matrons applying. How the rest of the married, widowed, separated, divorced women in need of wages met the economic problems which drove them to ask for work was unanswerable from the agencies' records.

This study, in Miss Brown's opinion, is an illustration of the type of investigation that can be made with profit by similar agencies in a community often with comparatively little change in the kind of record ordinarily kept for handling their own business.

When such data have been secured by agencies in many communities a valuable contribution will be made toward the building up of a body of knowledge upon the reasons why married women seek employment and toward the answering of this social question in a manner beyond the realm of speculation.

Inter-American Commission Makes Financial Report

THE Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party, when it went to Havana, received from friends in the United States, $5,020, from Cuban contributors, $30, totaling $5,050. This money was spent in Havana by the Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party, and is no part of this report. It is referred to only for the purpose of expressing appreciation to the contributors, Cuban and the United States of America, and to acquaint you with the financial details involved in the creation of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

The Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party, U. S. A., in view of the fact that it had been responsible for the creation of the Commission, felt that financial support should be given the Inter-American Commission of Women until such time as it was organized and could finance itself. The Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party received contributions as follows:

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont	$7,500.00	
Mrs. Isaac H. Dixon	100.00	
Mrs. Ruth Vandeer Litt	100.00	
		$7,700.00
Subsequent to May 3, 1929, up to and including January 31, 1930, there has been contributed and handled directly by the Inter-American Commission of Women the following sums:		
Mrs. Isaac H. Dixon	$2,100.00	
Mrs. John Winter Brannon	30.00	
Mrs. Grace Hoffman White	25.00	
Interest	18.90	
Dr. James Brown Scott	100.00	
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont	1,000.00	
Mr. Maxmillian Goldberg	7.50	
Miscellaneous contributions	201.49	
		3,482.89
Total		$11,182.89
Of this amount there has been expended for salaries, which includes the salary of the executive secretary, typist, and miscellaneous extra typing when required	$5,249.07	
Supplies	1,220.69	
Press	977.32	
For miscellaneous expenses, including postage, telegram, telephone, cable, translating	2,908.16	
		10,355.24
Balance February 1, 1930		$827.65

NOTE: This is in addition to the $2,649.68 contributed and expended by the Women's Research Foundation on the volumes on nationality, a report of which has been made by the Committee on Nationality of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Press Comment

Women in Industry

Washington Post,
Washington, D. C.,
March 16, 1930.

A NEW quirk in the unemployment situation is the demand in some quarters for more stringent regulations for women who are employed. Whenever the scarcity of jobs begins to pinch there is a cry against the participation of women in industry. In times of economic tranquillity the new status of women in business and industrial affairs is not questioned, but as soon as there are insufficient jobs to go around it becomes evident that men are not entirely reconciled to the feminine invasion of what they regard as their exclusive field.

The current interest in protective legislation for women indicates that other motives besides a desire to protect their health and morals may sometimes supply the animus for restrictive labor laws. That determined group of women who do not believe in special privileges for their sex sees in this altruistic movement a sinister attack on their jobs. They are therefore conducting a campaign of their own under the banner of equal opportunities for their traditionally weaker sex.

One of the theories that is being torn to shreds is that women doing certain classes of work should be limited to so many hours per week. Another is the provision on many statute books that women must not work at night. A third is the popular minimum wage rule for women. In this connection it may be recalled that the charwomen of Harvard who had served the university for years were recently discharged and replaced by men because of the minimum wage requirements.

It may be assumed that every woman takes the best job she can get. If she works at night, it is because she finds it more advantageous than day work. If night work is prohibited the number of jobs open to women is reduced, and competition for the daytime positions becomes more severe. If wage restrictions allow men to replace women who must support themselves, it is plain to see that these restrictions are a detriment rather than a protection. Women workers to whom these restrictions apply are usually employed because they must support themselves and families. The greatest of care should be taken to keep the door of economic opportunity open to them.

Opinion is divided as to whether women are as yet capable of competing with men in an open market for labor. It might be unwise to withdraw such regulations as minimum wage laws because of the depressive effect it would have upon wages paid to shopgirls and others in positions where the supply of labor is far greater than the demand. But it seems that States which are interested in protecting their citizens against exploitation should extend their legislation to men as well as women. When a family of children is faced with starvation, work under unfavorable conditions is better than no work at all. Restrictive laws that impose unfair competition upon women in such circumstances have outlived their usefulness.

Part-Time Mothers

New York Times,
March 21, 1930.

MISS FRANCES PERKINS spoke on Wednesday to a group of parents and educators whom she must have thought of as needing a push in an unexpected direction. People have come to accept "part-time mothers," some seeing them as a necessary evil and others believing that they are valuable to business, to themselves and to their children. From any point of view they are distinctly visible, though there is much argument over their desirability, and it must have come as a shock to Miss Perkins' audience to hear that they are failures unless they make at least $3,500 a year. If they cannot earn that sum, they should stay at home and be full-time mothers.

It is easy to imagine many families to which this rule would not apply economically. Dorothy Canfield Fisher wrote a novel about one such. The father was a born housekeeper, and he and the children got on beautifully. The mother was a born business woman, and the children's natures, very like the father's, made her frantic. When a lucky accident compelled him to stay at home and her to go to work, the atmosphere of the household was enormously changed for the better. In a few years she was making more than Miss Perkins' minimum and much more than the father ever could have earned. But she started at beginner's wages in a department store.

Few mothers nowadays find motherhood a full-time job, as Miss Perkins said, because housekeeping no longer includes the labors which have been either taken over by canning factories, knitting mills and other industries, or which remain in the home, but are greatly simplified by modern equipment. Keeping house is a job in itself. It is complicated by the presence of children, but it does not depend on them for its existence. The two jobs—keeping house and bringing up children—have gone together for such a long time that now it is hard to dissociate them. But many mothers are doing just that, and taking on a third job outside the home.

If they are failures, it is not from their own point of view. Their earnings, even though less than $1,000 a year, yield to the family necessities or luxuries not otherwise obtainable. Often the housekeeping becomes a family affair, with the children taking small responsibilities not harmful to their budding characters. They cannot be with their mother nor have her on call as constantly as if she were at home all day, but many child psychologists consider this really a helpful factor in their education. Attempting three jobs calls for courage, and succeeding in all three presupposes remarkable traits in the part-time mother. The effort may aid in developing necessary qualities.

Feminist Notes

Women in Czech Parliament

THE recent parliamentary elections in Czechoslovakia resulted in the election of fourteen women to the Houses of Parliament, making up 3.11 per cent. of the total membership of the Parliament. Four women were elected Senators and ten were elected Deputies. Women candidates were found for every party except the Catholic parties, according to Anna Cervena, secretary of a Feminist organization in Praha who sent the information to EQUAL RIGHTS.

There are 300 Deputies and 150 Senators in the Parliament. Women were represented as follows in the members elected from the different parties: Agrarian, one Senator; Social Democrats, one Senator and one Deputy; National Socialists, one Senator and three Deputies; Communists, one Senator and three Deputies; National Democrats, one Deputy; German Social Democrats, two Deputies. The parties electing no women were Czech Catholic; Slovak Catholic; Tradepeople; and minor parties which elected 85 members.

Of the fourteen elected, seven are serving their first terms.

Steel Works Executive

MRS. GENE LINDEBLAD is one of the few women steel works executives in the industry. She is secretary-treasurer, member of the Board of Directors, and one of the largest stockholders of the Kloster Steel Corporation in Chicago, which she helped to establish in 1925. The Kloster Corporation has a long-term contract with an important steel mill in Sweden and imports a large tonnage of Swedish tool steels and Swedish iron.

Mrs. Lindeblad began her business career before her marriage as a stenographer at $5 a week. She later became connected with a California steel firm and there first learned about iron and steel and their metallurgy, a subject she has been much interested in since. In 1912, when she was secretary to the manager of a steel concern in Chicago, the manager resigned. She took charge of the business for six weeks while awaiting the arrival of a new manager, and her work was so satisfactory that she was herself made the new manager. She was the only woman manager in the company's many offices throughout the country. She had charge of sales and general office management and specified all orders for steel and iron stock.

Mrs. Lindeblad is also well known in the industry as a saleswoman of steel, and she was the only woman exhibitor at a recent exposition of the American Society for Steel Treating.

Railroad Presidents

PHEBE E. CLARK of Nashville, Tennessee, is one of the three women railroad presidents in the United States, according to the records of the American Railway Association. The others are Mrs. D. R. Lovvorn of Bowden, Ga., president of the Bowden Railroad Company, and Mrs. Thomas W. Beckett, president of the North Carolina Railroad, which is owned by the State and leased to the Southern Railway Company.

Although Mrs. Clark's line, the Tennessee, Kentucky and Northern Railway Company, is only 20 miles long, it has been made important by her methods of management. It runs from Livingston, for 100 years the county seat of Overton County, Tennessee, to connect with the Tennessee Central Railroad.

The railroad was leased in 1912 for fifteen years by Mrs. Clark's husband, and she was elected vice-president in March, 1914, and in October of the same year succeeded her husband as president after his death. She says that she had had no training for her work except the "absolute confidence" her husband had given her in regard to his business matters and adds that in looking over his records she found nothing of importance which he had not already told her.

Mrs. Clark's railroad employs 50 men and is proud of its record of never having had a strike. It carries forest products and timber from the Cumberland Mountains as its principal freight; and although a large number of short lines in the vicinity have been forced out of business because of truck and bus competition, the Tennessee, Kentucky and Northern expects to continue.

Mrs. Clark's administration policy is "Try to play fair," and it has proved most successful. At Christmas the employees received a bonus of 10 per cent. of their year's earning. Any members of the railroad's staff that served in the World War found their positions open and waiting for them upon return.

But it has not always been easy sailing, at one time the company was only able to continue because, out of the loyalty to Mrs. Clark, the higher salaried officials and officers volunteered to cut their own pay to make up for the tremendous drop in profits.

For the first eight months of her presidential term, Mrs. Clark bore tremendous losses. Finally she called a conference and discussed the true situation. The men voted to bear losses themselves for another eight months, if necessary, and expressed their confidence in their president. At the end of eight months, there were no more losses to be met, and in 1927, when the original lease expired, Mrs. Clark, with the approval of bondholders, gained an extension until 1936.

Mrs. Clark does not run her railroad on Sunday.

Sarah Fedenborn was, until her recent retirement, president of the Louisiana Railway and Navigation Company of Shreveport, La., the longest line headed by a woman.

The National Roll of Honor

A PRESS release from the National League of Women Voters gives the following report on the League's project of establishing a National Roll of Honor:

"Susan B. Anthony, Anna Howard Shaw, Carrie Chapman Catt, the three great leaders of the woman's movement in the United States! These are the names that will head the National Roll of Honor which the League of Women Voters is enthusiastically working to establish in appropriate celebration of its tenth birthday. Women throughout the world, as well as in this country, know of their service and would agree that through their efforts 'a new day in the participation of women in public life' has come.

"To the Leagues of Iowa, Kansas and Michigan goes the distinction of being the first to nominate these leaders. Other States are eager to join them in pledging themselves to raise memorials in their honor.

"In proposing Dr. Shaw, Michigan honors not only one of its State pioneers who as a child helped establish her family's home in what was then a wilderness, but also the woman who, though ridiculed, devoted her life to public service and who received from the United States Government the Distinguished Service Medal for her record of efficient service during the war.

"In forwarding the name of Susan B. Anthony to the headquarters of the National League, Kansas recognizes her services in a campaign for a proposed amendment to the State constitution to enfranchise women, which was the first such amendment ever submitted in any State. The long and heroic leadership which she brought to the suffrage movement of the nation made history.

"By the very simplicity of its proposal Iowa attests to the greatness of Mrs. Catt whose early efforts in behalf of suffrage were carried on within the State's borders. They nominate her because she was 'organizer and lecturer for the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and honorary president of the National League of Women Voters.'

"With these three among the first names to be proposed, the honor roll of the League is assured distinction. The anniversary and memorial plan is accepted in the grateful and gallant spirit in which it was proposed."

Turk Victories

UNDER the head, "Brilliant Victories of Our Turkish Sisters," *L'Egyptienne* expresses the keen pleasure of Egyptian Feminists in the news of the appointment of Mlle. Weddi Beha as attache at the Turkish Legation at Washington, which marks the opening of the field of diplomacy to Turkish women.

L'Egyptienne also congratulates Turkish Feminists upon their recent success in obtaining the extension of municipal suffrage to women, saying:

"In amending the law which restricted suffrage to men, the parliamentary committee acted with gallantry. The law now does not merely include women. It puts them first, stating that 'every Turk, woman or man, has the right to vote and to be voted for in municipal elections.'"

Another Census Supervisor

EMMA C. SHARRETT, appointed district census supervisor of Assembly Districts 1 and 2 in Richmond Borough, Richmond County, New York, by the Census Bureau on March 19, is the twenty-seventh woman district census supervisor so far appointed for the 1930 census.

All appointments must be made by April.

Considering that only five women held the important district census supervisor position in the 1920 census, it is apparent that either Uncle Sam or his nieces have come a considerable way in the last decade.

With Mrs. Sharrett's appointment, New York becomes tied with Iowa for the distinction of having the largest number of women district supervisors. Each now has three. Missouri, Nevada, Ohio and Illinois follow closely with two each, and Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, and Washington each has one.

Most of them are in smaller or medium-sized cities, though there is one in Brooklyn, New York, one in Portland, Oregon, and one in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mrs. Sharrett's headquarters are in Port Richmond, New York.

The Eastern Arab Congress at Damascus

FOLLOWING the Congress of the Arab Women of Palestine a few months ago, *L'Association Academique des Femmes Arabes* announces that a Congress of all the Eastern Arab States will take place this spring at Damascus. All delegates attending the congress will be cordially welcomed, but the right of voting will be reserved exclusively for delegates from the Near East.

It is the purpose of the coming congress to consider and act upon the following questions:

1. Woman suffrage.
2. Arab Feminist co-operation.
3. Raising the standard of Arab literature.
4. Propaganda in favor of goods locally produced.
5. Adequate training for girls.
6. Rules for the care of children.

News from the Field

Next Radio Program

DR. FLOYD ALLPORT of the University of Syracuse, will speak on April 2 over the nation-wide hook-up of the National Broadcasting Company at the invitation of the National Woman's Party. Dr. Allport's topic will be, "Seeing Women as They Are." His article, under the same title which appeared in the March *Harper's* of last year, was very widely read and quoted.

Miss La Motte Honor Guest

ELLEN N. LA MOTTE, who was recently decorated by the Chinese Government, C. C. Wu, Chinese Minister, presenting her with a medal in recognition of her splendid work for the suppression of the opium traffic, will be the guest of honor at a reception to be held at Alva Belmont House on Sunday, March 30, at four o'clock. In addition to being a distinguished writer, Miss La Motte is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Training School for Nurses and a veteran Feminist. She began her career as a writer on the editorial staff of the *Maryland Suffrage News.*

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL, C. P. A., *Auditor*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to February 28, 1930, $1,650,881.11.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, March 1 to 15, 1930:

New York City Committee, Headquarters share dues from Industrial Council members (Branch retains all dues over 25c.):	
Miss D .M. Varley	$0.25
Mrs. C. Nolan	.25
Miss M. Pettit	.25
Miss L. Hansen	.25
Miss Gladys Brooks	.25
Miss J. Silverstein	.25
Mrs. Canfield	.25
Miss Catherine Butler	.25
Mrs. Mae Hicks	.25
Mrs. E. Keefe	.25
Miss Nellie Ryan	.25
Mrs. R. Bauer	.25
Miss G. Sealy	.25
Mrs. Mulligan	.25
Mrs. T. Feldheim	.25
Miss Kate Jeurick	.25
Miss M. J. Duhigg	.25
Mrs. Hannah Doyle	.25
Mrs. Funk	.25
Mrs. S. Batkin	.25
Mrs. Smith	.25
Miss Anderson	.25
Miss A. Roberts	.25
Miss Bigley	.25
Mrs. E. Bennett	.25
Miss O. Sullivan	.25
Mrs. Bailey	.25
Mrs. M. E. Duell	.25
Mrs. M. Scott	.25
Mrs. M. Smith	.25
Mrs. Francis Sprague, Ill	10.00
Mrs. Joseph Crane, Ohio	1.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Spong, N. Y	1.00
Mrs. John Blish, D. C	1.00
Miss Jessie Dell, D. C	50.00
Miss Esther B. McLaughlin, N. Y	1.00
Dr. Minerva B. Pontius, Ind	50.00
Miss Franciska Berg, N. Y	5.00
Miss Mabel Vernon, Del	10.00
Mrs. John Winters Brannan, N. Y	170.00
Miss Lavinia L. Dock, Pa	6.00
Miss Faith Binkley, Fla	12.00
Mrs. Stephen H. Pell, N. Y	50.00
Mrs. Elizabeth T. Kent, Cal	100.00
Miss Emma Wold, Ore	1.00
Mrs. Anna M. Twitchell, Ohio	5.00
Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, D. C	50.00
Mrs. Frederick Hazard, N. Y	25.00
Miss Mamie D. Larsh, Ind	3.00
Miss Fannie C. Graeter, Ind	3.00
Mrs. H. H. Rinne, Ind	1.00
Miss Merica E. Hoagland, Ind	1.00
Miss Elizabeth Rainey, Ind	1.00
Refunds	7.25
Rooms at National Headquarters:	
Miss Gail Laughlin, Me	10.00
Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, Del	5.00
Miss Alma Lutz, N. Dak	5.00
Miss A. Marguerite Smith, N. Y	5.00
Mrs. Dora G. Ogle, Md	3.00
Miss Ella Riegel, Pa	2.00
Total receipts, March 1 to 15, 1930	$601.75
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to March 15, 1930	$1,651,482.86

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